

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

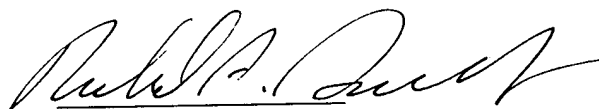
Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. The applicant respectfully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-7 and 12, and the tentative allowance of claim 8.

By the present amendment, the term "when welded" has been deleted from claim 8 to overcome the objection to claim 8. Claims 13-19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Thus, the present amendment merely reduces the number of issues and places the application in a condition of allowance. Therefore, a showing under 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b) is not believed to be needed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,



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